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IPOMOPSIS CONGESTA SSP CREBRIFOLIA
BALLHEAD GILIA

Ballhead Gilia is a perennial with several ascending to nearly prostrate, usually unbranched stems that often form mats and are up to 12 cm tall, arising from a branched rootcrown. The strap-shaped, entire-margined, basal leaves are up to 2 cm long, but the alternate stem leaves become smaller upward. Foliage is light green and glabrous. Numerous flowers are borne in a spherical cluster at the tops of the stems. The white, tubular corolla is 3-4 mm long and flares into 5 lobes at the mouth; the 5 anthers are held just beyond the mouth. The calyx tube has 5 pointed lobes. The fruit is a rounded capsule that is 2-4 mm long and has 1-3 seeds. Flowering in June July, fruiting in late July.

The entire leaves and sprawling habit separate this from most other species of *IPOMOPSIS* and *GILIA* in our area. *COLLOMIA DEBILIS* will also form loose mats, but the flowers are not so tightly clustered.